



Next Editors: Christina Harrison and Angela Baptie: herald@hunton.org.uk
All items for the next edition of the Herald to the Editors by 15th September

Hunton Fete & Christmas Fair

The above events take a massive amount of planning and after 9 highly successful years we feel that it is time for a new committee. Consequently, the current committee has decided to stand down with immediate effect. It is hoped that others in the village will accept responsibility for organising these popular community events. We can now share the 2019 Fete's financial details but it must be noted that these are interim accounts as final numbers from some stallholders are still awaited.

Summer Fete

The committee's aim was to host a traditional, English summer fete. Various village organisations and charities such as Friends of St Mary's, Kent Air Ambulance, Bloodwise and Hunton's various clubs etc. were allotted stalls free of charge. This was to raise money for their causes. The fete was not, per se, a fundraising event. It was resurrected because of a generous loan of £1000 from the Parish Council. This was repaid immediately following that first fete and since then the event has been self-funding. A contingency was maintained to ensure that the fete could be paid for each year including a reserve to cover losses had it been necessary to cancel. This model latterly included reserving sufficient funds (£6000) to also underwrite the Christmas Fair for which the committee took responsibility in late 2017.

After meeting these commitments excess money was used to purchase items for general village & community use, including 12 gazebos, smart TV for the club, tablecloths, 6 gallows signs and holders for advertising events, 2 heated soup tureens, a tea urn, 3 cake stands, the vintage cart used at events, 100m of external village hall lighting and several other small items e.g. artificial Christmas trees for the church, a snow machine, Santa's costume (available for rental) and Christmas fairy lights etc. The next proposed spend was to meet the shortfall in the insurance payouts on the theft of the orchard and church mowers. At 31st July the cost of putting on the fete stood at £1,530.53. Takings totalled £2,101.56 resulting in a profit for the events fund of £571.03.

Christmas Fair

This event has its roots in the highly successful antiques market, held in the church and churchyard for several years. Unlike the summer fete this was designed to be fund-raising with the 2 main beneficiaries - St Marys Church and Friends of St Marys. As with the summer fete, village organisations and charities could apply for a stall, free of charge, to raise funds for their own causes. When the committee became involved in 2017 the decision was taken to broaden the appeal by including a child-orientated element based in the village hall with the aim of this becoming self-funding assisted by the sale of teas, coffee and mulled wine. This proved successful.

If organising the Village fete and/or Christmas fair is something that you would like to become involved with please contact one of your Parish Councillors listed below to register your interest.

The Events Committee

Your Local Contacts:		Village Hall Booking:	
School: Secretary/Head Teacher	820360	Maidstone Police	www.huntonvillagehall.co.uk
Under 5's Pre-School:	820309	Huntonwatch: huntonwatch@gmail.com	690690 or 101
Pre-School Supervisor:	07972067110	'Potholes' Hotline (KCC)	820403
Pond and Tree Warden: Mike Summersgill	820429	Community Warden: Adam McKinley	03000 418181
Rector: Revd. Peter Callway	747570*	PCSO - Martin Chivers	07811 271021
Hon Associate Rector: Revd. David Jones	741474*	Helen Grant MP helen.grant.mp@parliament.uk	101
Associate Rector: Revd Eileen Doyle	204241**	Hunton Bell Ringers, Michael Webb	0207 219 7107
Churchwarden: Alison Ellman-Brown	820288	WI President: Ann Sawtell	745716
Village Club: Gil Robertson	820059	*not available on Fridays; **not available on Mondays or Tuesdays	
Contact details for other village clubs and organisations are available at www.hunton.org.uk/contacts			

Parish Council Contacts	Diary Dates
Parish Clerk: Sharon Goodwin - 681238, huntonpc@googlegmail.com	Saturday 7 Sept: HVC Beer & Gin Festival Noon onwards
Chairman: David Heaton - 820678, dhhuntonpc@gmail.com	Saturday 14 Sept: Church Working Party 9-12 noon
Clr Jonny Goddard - 820096	Saturday 21 Sept: HVC Film & Supper Night 6.30pm
Clr Roger Lee - 820210, rlhuntonpc@btinternet.com	Tuesdays 24 Sept & 19 Nov WI Open Meetings 7pm for 7.30pm
Clr Tony Stanbridge - 820721, tshuntonpc@gmail.com	Sunday 6th Oct: Harvest Festival Supper 5.30 pm for 6 pm
Clr Annette Trought - 820448	Check out www.hunton.org.uk/diary for the latest events.
Clr Helen Ward - 820810, hwhuntonpc@wardy.org	If you would like to add an event, email diary@hunton.org.uk
Clr Gary Thomas - 820691, gthuntonpc@gmail.com	

Pastoral Letter

Every generation a major festival takes place in Vevey, Switzerland. Running from 1797, the last two occasions being 1977 and 1999, the twelfth "Fête des Vignerons" – the festival of the wine growers – has just come to an end. After 3 weeks of daily shows comprising 5,500 volunteer actors and performers who have rehearsed for a year, there were hugs, tears, smiles and cheers. Alongside the daily parade of characters, merchandise, food and performances in the lakeside stages, the spectacular main event was indeed significant. Those privileged to see it (20,000 at a time in a temporary arena built on the market car park!) will long remember it. Significant events stay in our memories and shape our experiences.

In my previous employment I worked with people to explore significant events in their lives, from childhood through to the present, looking for patterns and themes that helped individuals discover more about themselves and the things they are good at. Often, we would find repeating patterns of things that were both enjoyable and successful which helped career choices and decisions about the future.

Significant events in our lives include births, marriages, deaths, house moves, job changes and so on. When Jesus called the first disciples, this was the most significant thing that had ever happened to them (see Matthew chapter 4, Mark chapter 1, Luke chapter 4). They left everything and followed him into a ministry that changed the world forever. Many of us are called into a relationship that will change our lives forever, and our response to that call can be the most significant decision we have ever taken. Later this month on September 28th Lorna Faulkner will be ordained at Rochester Cathedral as she enters into the next phase of her calling and vocation. The following day we will be celebrating with her at St. Mary's Hunton as she is commissioned as the Assistant Curate in our benefice. Her father will preach and we will gather in the village hall afterwards for a fellowship lunch (more details about the lunch will be shared in churches soon).

When we say yes to Jesus we take our place in the body of Christ that is the church and we each play our part according to our talents, gifts and abilities. As we celebrate with Lorna we will remember that the most important activities in the church are the unseen acts of service and love. At the end of the Fête des Vignerons the largest cheer was for those who followed the cows with shovel and wheelbarrow. Quite right too!

Peter Callway - Rector

King George V Playing Field Management Committee

For those of you that are unfamiliar with its role, the Management Committee looks after the recreation field next to the Village Hall on behalf of the Parish Council. It is made up of Trustees from each of the Sports Clubs and the Parish Council. Our aim is to maintain the facilities of the field, not only for the benefit of the clubs but also the general public. We are responsible for arranging grass cutting, trimming and pruning of the field hedges, litter bin emptying, the upkeep of the play equipment and car park, general maintenance and tidiness.

Each year we try to set an objective that we believe will enhance or improve the field. Recent additions have included new car park fencing, new field and pedestrian gates, a new nest swing in the play area and new safety surfacing around the multiplay unit. This year safety fencing was installed around the play equipment for younger children so that parents do not need to worry about their little ones running off and to keep dogs out. If anyone has any suggestions as to how the facilities may be further improved we will be delighted to hear from you.

We are all aware of the increase in rural crime and the playing field has been a victim of this on a number of occasions recently. Both the Bowls Club and Cricket Club buildings have been targeted and the field gate has been damaged several times by would-be thieves. To date, bizarrely, nothing of value has been stolen but the cost in terms of repairs and reinstatement is becoming significant. The Parish Council and the Playing Field Management Committee have therefore decided to restrict vehicular access to the field and village hall car park out of hours by installing a lockable barrier at the entrance. It is hoped that by preventing access at night, attempted break-ins using vehicles will be discouraged. We can all play our part in protecting the assets of the village and I would encourage anybody visiting the field to keep their eyes and ears open for anything unusual or suspicious and report it promptly to the police on 101, at huntonwatch@gmail.com or Huntonwatch - 820403. Please be aware of vehicles in and around the car park and village hall very late at night, lights on the field, unexpected loud noises and, during the day, evidence of attacks on gates, fences and buildings or simply things just not looking quite right – open windows, swinging doors, broken glass and the like.

Simon Taylor, Chairman

St Mary's Church - September Working Party

Please note that the next Working Party in the Church and Churchyard has been changed from the 21st to 14th September from 9am until 12 Noon. The aim is to keep both inside and outside of St Mary's Church looking well cared for in order to encourage people to use the Church for weddings and other services. This will also enable graves to be found by visitors and allows for a peaceful and tidy place for all. As usual there will be a coffee break with biscuits or cake, so if you think you may be able to help please contact Lesley - 820210 lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com

Iyengar Yoga

Yoga classes will commence on Tuesday 3rd and Saturday 14th September 10 to 11am in the Village Club (No class on 7th September). Please contact Erica Hannah - 820849 for details.

Harvest Festival Service and Supper – All Welcome

The Harvest Service at St Mary's Church will be on Sunday, October 6th at 4.30pm followed by the Harvest Supper in the village hall at 5.30 for 6pm. Tickets for the supper are: adult £6.50, children £5 each and £20 for a family of 2 adults and 2 children (14 and under). To make a reservation for the supper contact Liz Oliver - 820200; liz.oliver@waitrose.com or Wendy Simmons - 820875.

Hunton Village Club Events

Beer & Gin Festival

Join us on Saturday 7th September at Hunton Club for an afternoon enjoying some locally produced draught beers and unusual bottled beers. Among those to taste will be Westerham Brewery's Endeavour, a single hop award winner, Tonbridge Brewery's Coppernob, Musket Brewery's Green Hop and both Mild and Silver Star ales from Goachers. Make your own home brew and enter the competition, entries in by 2.30pm. There will be a variety of special gins and cocktails too as well as a BBQ and other savouries and delicious homemade cakes baked by the WI ladies. Enjoy live music and dancing to a Ceilidh band. Entry for adults is £2 including a free raffle ticket. Free entry for children with activities available, they can even make their own mocktails.

Film & Supper Night

Our next Film Night is on Saturday September 21st at 6.30pm in Hunton Club. Tickets £10 including a two course supper, the film and popcorn. This event is open for members and guests. By request, this month we are showing *A Fish Called Wanda* starring John Cleese. We would love to hear from you if you have any suggestions for films to be shown on other dates. We need to know numbers for catering so please contact Lesley - 820210 lesley.a.lee@btinternet.com or Bridget - 820059 bridget@invictanet.co.uk.

WI News - Open Meetings – All Welcome

On Tuesday 24th September Melanie Gibson-Barton will be speaking about Eva Braun. This talk gives an interesting insight into Hitler's personality. Also on 19th November another WI open meeting when the speaker Martin Williams who was, at the time of the Iranian siege, the British Ambassador in Iran. Hear him speak about the Iranian hostage crisis when US diplomats and citizens were held hostage for 444 days. Come and hear the surprising truth behind the headlines. Entry for each event is £5 including refreshments, start time 7.00 for 7.30pm.

Members were Bowled Over - For the Annual Summer Garden Party this year Hunton Bowls Club invited the WI to spend an evening in their lovely little oasis of calm in the village learning some of the basics of Bowls. The theory of the game appeared to be quite straight forward, putting it into practice was quite another matter! Many thanks to the real bowls players' infinite patience and great good humour in trying to instruct WI members, all had a really enjoyable evening and even some success. Many thanks are due to Angela Baptie and all her team for organising such an entertaining and fun evening.

The next WI meeting will be a tutored wine tasting on Tuesday 3rd Sept. at 7.30pm in Hunton Village Club. New ladies are always welcome, please phone Ann 820731.

Calor Rural Community Fund

Calor have donated upwards of £50,000 over the past two years supporting rural communities with generous awards for projects in villages that have little or no main gas. For 2019 there were 35 projects with only five £1000 awards available.

This year we were quick off the mark and bid for £1000 towards a new cooker for the village hall. Preparing the application criteria was a challenge but we did it and then persuaded as many people as possible to vote for the project in a short space of time. The more votes, the better chance we had. Much nagging, cajoling and posts on Village Facebook etc. resulted in votes from 130 people. Meanwhile, through Calor and Crowdfunding we raised £100 from 10 people and became one of the first 20 projects to do so ensuring Calor would automatically double our money. We succeeded quickly and gained another £200. However, a great community spirit kicked in raising a total of £530. Wow!

Fingers were crossed in July for the announcements of the final winners – we won and were awarded £1,000 to add to our £530.

Thank you to everyone who helped by voting or donating to the crowdfunding challenge. It just proves that when our village gets together, things can be achieved.

Sue Pinks and Annette Trought

Friends of St Mary's Church, Hunton

The Friends continue to be an active registered charity. Along with regular membership subscriptions from 45 local residents, we continue to enhance our funds through the provision of bars and BBQs at various village events.

Last year, the Friends were able to respond promptly to the damage caused by rotten timbers in the south aisle of the church. The Trustees pledging to pay approximately £13,000 for the damage in the survey report after a request for help from the PCC. As the Friends had the monies available, the work was able to commence as soon as the builders were free. This meant that the church was clear of scaffolding and the south aisle was open for use at the Christmas fair and subsequent events.

For more information, regarding the Friends of St Mary's and how to become a member of our village charity, please contact Ian Pinks - 820709.

David Heaton – Chairman / Ian Pinks - Treasurer

Road Safety Update

The parish council's Traffic and Road Safety Working Party (TRSWP) has been discussing with KCC the possibility of reducing the speed limit in East Street from the current national speed limit to 30 or 40mph. KCC has not so far been supportive but has agreed to consider it further following a traffic speed survey. The parish council is arranging for this to be carried out by deploying a number of automatic speed monitoring devices (the kind where there are two black cables across the road surface) for a period of a week at various points along East Street during late September or October.

Following a site meeting between Cllr Jonny Goddard and representatives from Kent Highways KCC has agreed to install pedestrian warning signs on Hunton Hill on either side of the Greensand Way. This is something the TRSWP has been lobbying for some time. They have also agreed to install warning signage on the approach to the Elm Corner bend on Redwall Lane. These two items will be funded by KCC.

Hunton Village Club Opening Hours

Wed-Fri 8-11pm Sun 12-2.30pm & 8-10.30pm

Tree Health Update – New Alert

I've written previously about Ash Die-Back (chalara), which has spread rapidly through the UK. We've also lost horse chestnut trees through bleeding canker and of course Dutch Elm disease. Although the ancient elm hedge on the footpath between the Church and East Street is still re-growing. As long as you keep them cut at shoulder height, the infecting beetles do not tend to land on them. There is now an urgent warning from the Government to be aware of Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) being found in isolated pockets of the UK, including London. The caterpillars of the moths form large lines processing around the trunks of a tree (hence the name). These characteristically hairy caterpillars feed on oak leaves and can increase trees vulnerability to attack by other pests and diseases making trees less able to withstand weather conditions such as drought and floods.



If you know of anyone who has recently planted any larger oaks imported from the continent, DEFRA is requesting that they check these trees for OPM and report any findings. At this time of year you are most likely to notice the hairy-looking caterpillars or web-like nests - please do not touch either as they could potentially be harmful to your health. For more information on the moth identification and other diseases visit www.observatree.org.uk or www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources. Like the earlier tree diseases, it is the importation of trees and saplings from European nurseries for housing/road development planting that tends to bring these pests to our island, although some can cross the Channel on the wind or traffic tyres. This is a modern day disease but for pretty and highly invasive weeds, like Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed, we can pin the blame on our Victorian gardeners importing specimens from afar.

Mike Summersgill - huntontreewarden@btinternet.com

Hunton Pre-School

The 2018-2019 year has been a great success for Hunton Pre-School. We have seen our numbers increase steadily and the majority of our new starters are joining through parental recommendations. Due to a high intake for September 2019 we have also been able to increase our opening hours so that we can now offer 26 hours per week. We have been very successful with our fundraising this year and this has enabled us to buy lots of new toys and equipment. We held a sponsored trampoline bounce in March when children had 1 minute to bounce as many times as possible. This raised an amazing £607.50. Children were requested to compile a shopping list and we were able to purchase the majority of items. We held our usual Christmas and Easter bazaars and with the money raised this enabled us to arrange a coach trip to the Rare Breeds Centre that all children and staff enjoyed.

Going forward we have been lucky enough to win a place in the ballot for the 2020 Marathon and Gemma Bond, one of the parents, will be running to raise money on our behalf. We are setting up a fundraising page and with the support of our parents, friends and village community we hope to boost funds. Please sponsor us!

Sarah Horlock - Pre-School Manager

Walk and Sunday Lunch – 11th August

Despite a 5 minutes delay for rain, 16 people and half as many well behaved dogs, enjoyed a dry circular walk from the Club through George Street and alongside the Beult, over the footbridge and back via Clapper Bridge and Bishops Lane. This was followed by a Sunday lunch of roast beef, chicken and a variety of vegetables, puddings and cheeses. A further 19 people also enjoyed lunch helping to raise money for improvements to the Club. Thanks to Graham Ashlin for cooking the roast beef and chicken, Lesley and Roger Lee for heading up the team of the many other people who prepared, donated food, helped serve and cleaned up. It is hoped to repeat this event later in the year. You can find out about these and other events by joining the Village Club, reading the Hunton Herald or following the Hunton Facebook page.

At St Mary's Church in September

Flowers	Services
Sept. Alison Ellman-Brown Sept. 28th All to help for Benefice	Sunday 1st September 9.30am – Holy Communion Service - Rev Eileen Doyle Sunday 15th September 9.30am – Family Service - Rev David Jones Sunday 29th September 10.30am – Benefice Service - Rev Peter Callway & Team

Other services in the Benefice					
Sept.	1st	8th	15th	22nd	Other Services/events
Coxheath	11am HC	11am MP	11am HC	11am FS	10am - Every Thursday - HC
E. Farleigh	9.30am MP	8am HC	9.30am HC	8am HC	First Wed of the month – Compline 6.45pm
Linton	9.30am FS	9.30am HC	8am HC	9.30am MP (Matins)	Last Wed of the month - HC 12 noon
W.Farleigh	8.00am HC	9.30am MP		9.30am HC	

HC Holy Communion, MP Morning Prayer, FS Family Service

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